

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINSHA 07953 221133Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 L-03 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 SP-02 DODE-00 /043 W  
-----130662 221335Z /43

R 221115Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5308  
INFO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 7953

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS, CG, US, CG  
SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

REF: (A) STATE 197239, (B) KINSHASA 7859, (C) KINSHASA 6671

1. DURING AUGUST 19 MEETING MOBUTU CONFIRMED THAT GOZ SUPPORTED CHAD IN CURRENT CONFLICT WITH LIBYAN-BACKED REBELS, BUT HE INDICATED THAT IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH SUPPORT COULD NOT INCLUDE ANY SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE. MOBUTU CLAIMED THAT WHEREAS DURING PAST FEW YEARS GOZ HAD PROVIDED CONSIDERABLE ARMS AND EQUIPMENT TO CHAD, NOTABLY BELGIAN-MADE WEAPONS, ZAIRE'S CURRENT SECURITY REQUIREMENTS AND TIGHT BUDGETARY SITUATION MADE IT MOST DIFFICULT TO DO ANYTHING MORE.

2. MOBUTU WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE IN SERVING AS A CONDUIT FOR US MILITARY EQUIPMENT DESTINED FOR CHAD. WHEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF (A) I MADE CLEAR THAT SUCH A PROCEDURE WAS CONTRARY TO OUR LAWS, MOBUTU INDICATED HE WOULD CONSIDER TRANSFERRING US EQUIPMENT ALREADY IN ZAIRE PROVIDED IT WAS IMMEDIATELY REPLACED. IN MAKING THIS POINT MOBUTU STRESSED THAT ZAIRE COULD NOT AFFORD ANY DELAYS IN RECEIVING SUCH REPLACEMENTS.

3. AS ANTICIPATED REF (C), MOBUTU'S POSITION SEEMS TO BE THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO TRANSFER TO CHAD SOME US EQUIPMENT NOW  
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IN ZAIRE TO THE EXTENT THAT WE WILL ASSURE A QUID PRO QUO. I DO NOT BELIEVE THIS WOULD NECESSARILY ENTAIL IMMEDIATE REPLACEMENT IN KIND. BUT HE COULD BE EXPECTED TO BARGAIN FOR ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS OF COMPENSATION ON THE GROUNDS THAT FAZ IS ALREADY SHORT OF EQUIPMENT IN THE FACE OF A CONTINUING THREAT FROM ANGOLA. THIS WOULD PROBABLY APPLY EVEN TO THE LOAN OF A C-130. UNLESS WE ARE PREPARED TO ENTER SOME SUCH ARRANGEMENT, I SUGGEST THAT WE BE

CAUTIOUS IN OUR DEALINGS WITH BOTH THE CHADIAN AND ZAIRIAN  
GOVERNMENTS LEST THE FORMER'S EXPECTATIONS RE ZAIRE TRANSFERS RISE  
TOO HIGH AND THE LATTER SEEK TO SHIFT RESPONSIBILITY TO US FOR ANY  
INABILITY TO FULFILL THOSE EXPECTATIONS.  
CUTLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 22-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977KINSHA07953  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 197239, 77 KINSHASA 7859, 77 KINSHASA 6671  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD  
**TAGS:** MASS, CG, US, CD, LY  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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